

eddy current sheet and an exciter block (28) surrounding at least a portion thereof, the acceleration sensor is a sensor operating according to the Ferraris principle, and the eddy current sheet is formed of a non-magnetizable metal, and the eddy current sheet function is performed by the guide rail (25).

2. (Amended) Linear guide according to claim 1, wherein the exciter block includes permanent magnets.

3. (Amended) Linear guide according to claim 1, wherein the guide rail is manufactured of an anti-magnetic hardenable roller bearing steel.

4. (Amended) Linear guide according to claim 1, wherein a cover band (32) of a non-magnetic material is used as the eddy current sheet which is installed in an elongated groove of the guide rail (25).

5. (Amended) Linear guide according to claim 1, wherein the exciter block (28) is constructed U-shaped and is arranged in a separate housing (27) which is fastened to the guide carriage (25).

8. (Amended) Linear guide comprising a guide rail (25) on which a guide carriage (26) is supported for movement longitudinally, and a drive to cause the longitudinal movement of the guide carriage (26), the drive being formed as an electric motor with a first motor element arranged on the guide rail (25) and a second motor element arranged on the guide carriage (26), and a distance-measuring system on the linear guide, which includes a measuring strip (31) and a measuring head (30) movable relative to the measuring strip adjacent to the guide carriage (26) or the guide rail (25) and extending parallel to the guide rail (25), wherein the distance-measuring system includes an acceleration sensor having an eddy current sheet and an exciter block (28) surrounding at least a portion thereof,

the acceleration sensor is a sensor operating according to the Ferraris principle, and the eddy current sheet is formed of a non-magnetizable metal, and the eddy current sheet function is performed by a rotating disk which is drivable by the guide rail.

9. (Amended) Linear guide comprising a guide rail arranged in a guide housing (35) on which a traveling carriage is supported for movement longitudinally, and with a drive to cause the longitudinal movement of the traveling carriage (36), the drive being formed as an electric motor with a first motor element arranged on the guide rail and a second motor element arranged on the traveling carriage (36), and a distance-measuring system allocated to the linear guide, the distance-measuring system including an acceleration sensor with an eddy current sheet (41) and an exciter block (42) operating according to the Ferraris principle, whereby the eddy current sheet (41) is made of an electrically conducting, non-magnetizable material and the exciter block (42) includes permanent magnets, and whereby the eddy current sheet (41) is part of a beam having a U-shaped cross section which forms a cable channel (39) for a drag chain (38).

11. (Amended) Linear guide according to claim 9, wherein the beam (40) is fastened on a longitudinal side of the guide housing (35).

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 and 11-15 are currently pending in this Application, as amended. By this Reply, Applicant has amended claims 1-5, 8, 9 and 11, and cancelled claim 10. Applicant has also submitted a Proposed Drawing Amendment concurrently herewith, along with the corresponding amendments to the specification. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added to the Application by these amendments

In the Action, the drawings were objected to since Figures 1 and 4 were not designated with the legend "Prior Art" and that the rotating disk feature of claim 8

was not shown. In response, Applicant has submitted a Proposed Drawing Amendment in which the legend "Prior Art" has been added to Figures 1 and 4. New Figures 7 and 8 have been added to illustrate the rotating disk drivable by the guide rail as recited in claim 8. No new matter has been entered into the Application by these amendments. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

In the Action, claims 3, 8, 10 and 11 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim and were otherwise indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate part of the subject matter of claims 2 and 3, which were indicated in the Action as not being disclosed or taught by the prior art. Additionally, claim 8 has been rewritten in independent form and claim 9 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 10. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 8 and 9 should now be in condition for allowance. The remaining claims have been amended in accord and depend directly or indirectly from claims 1 or 9 and should also be allowable. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that all of the currently pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

In the Action, originally submitted claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9 and 12-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over various combinations as noted in the Action. In view of the claim amendments noted above, which incorporate the subject matter that was noted as allowable into the independent claims, it is respectfully submitted that these rejections have been rendered moot and the Application should now be in condition for allowance.

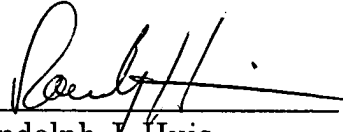
If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place the present application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

Applicant: Dietmar Rudy
Application No.: 09/931,491

In view of the foregoing Amendment and Remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the present Application, including claims 1-9 and 11-15 is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dietmar Rudy

By 
Randolph J. Huis
Registration No. 34,626
(215) 568-6400

Volpe and Koenig, P.C.
Suite 400, One Penn Center
1617 John F. Kennedy Boulevard
Philadelphia, PA 19103

RJH/rct
Enclosures